

IT IS THE MISSION OF THE SCHODACK CENTRAL SCHOOLS

to develop our students to become "...active, reflective, creative learners. In our schools, they will engage in rewarding work and practice behaviors that are intelligent in both an academic and a practical sense. Students will develop the attitudes, skills and understandings that will allow them to fulfill their potential and to function successfully in their individual and social roles."

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SCHODACK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
1216 Maple Hill Road, Castleton, New York 12033-1699

**March 18, 2010**

**Maple Hill MIDDLE School CAFETERIA**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES – REGULAR**

Present: Andrew Fleck, President; Phyllis Weber Scannell, Kenneth Flood, Michael Hiser, Seth Hendrick, George Warner, Linda Underwood, Susan Megna, Vice President.

Absent: Paul Puccio.

Also Present: Doug Hamlin, Superintendent; Robert Horan, MHHS; Jason Chevrier, CES; Donna Watson, Director of Curriculum and Staff Development; Sherri Fisher, Director of Business and Support Services; Lori Colistra, Director of Pupil Personnel Services; Michael Bennett, MHMS; Liz Chipman, District Clerk.

1. Meeting called to order by President Fleck at 7:00 p.m.
2. Approval of present agenda. Seth Hendrick moved to approve present agenda. Kenneth Flood seconded. All present in favor.
3. Approval of minutes
  - a. Approval of minutes of regular meeting of February 25, 2010
  - b. Approval of minutes of workshop meetings of February 5, 2010, February 23, 2010, March 11, 2010
  - c. Revision to minutes of regular meeting of October 15, 2009: Seth Hendrick moved approval of a motion to file a Notice of Intervention in relation to the 2009 Hannaford Brothers tax certiorari claim and to share the cost of the property appraisal with the Town of Schodack on an equal basis. Phyllis Weber Scannell seconded. All present in favor. Seth Hendrick moved to approve minutes listed and revision. Kenneth Flood seconded. All present in favor.
4. Meeting open for public discussion. None.
5. Board discussion
  - a. Reschedule regular meeting: April 15 to April 22, 2010. Discussion. By consensus, meeting remains at April 15.
  - b. Special meeting: Tuesday, April 27, 2010 to vote on Questar III budget. 7:30am. George Warner, Phyllis Weber Scannell, Kenneth Flood, Andrew Fleck, Seth Hendrick all able to attend.
  - c. Reschedule workshop meeting - 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills: March 4 to May 6, 2010. Approved by consensus.
  - d. Seth Hendrick: not running for re-election to BOE. Board extended thanks for nine years of service. Linda Underwood will not be running for re-election to BOE. Phyllis Weber Scannell will not be running for re-election to BOE.
  - e. George Warner: Questar meeting last week. Distance learning presentation by Bob Horan.
  - f. Roy McDonald presentation on Saturday re: budget.

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*Every child will be challenged, and every child will challenge every assessment.*

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## 6. Reports

- a. 2010-11 Budget Draft #2. Doug Hamlin reported. Budget development issues. Pending assessment challenges. Cost reductions in Draft #1. Cost reductions in Draft #2. Board directive was to reach 5% tax increase. Reductions in administrative support, athletics, supplies, materials and equipment, instructional support/staff development, instructional program/staffing. Most areas of instructional program are affected. Sherri Fisher reported on estimated expenditures 2010/2011. Contingent budget. Outlined tentative three year plan for use of fund balance. Discussion, comments, questions from board members. Impact at elementary school v. high school. Michael Hiser moved to enter into public discussion. Linda Underwood seconded. All present in favor.
- b. Public Discussion. Board and public have to understand that Schodack has extraordinary faculty and staff. We will get through this, and our kids will be well educated. Thanks to BOE for their work. Concern about art and music programs. Class size at lower elementary levels. Ask that decisions be well researched. Reductions in classroom teacher assistant support. Has every non-instructional position been examined? Across the board pay freeze? Explanation of contingent budget. Salary increases for non-union employees. Guidance, monitor reductions. Energy efficiency programs. Loss of modified sports program is missed opportunity. Facebook page, "Save Maple Hill Modified Sports." Thanks to administrators who chose to forego pay raises. Skills and social competencies gained by participation in modified sports. Intramural sports? When will decisions be made for individual class offerings for next year? Auditorium sized class for physics may be beneficial to seniors. Private industry grants. Per pupil cost is comparable to districts of similar size. Remaining capital project funds. Class make-up with three sections per grade. Community tolerance for current 4.4% tax increase. Total athletic budget. Volunteers could be put to use within district.
- c. Board discussion resumes. Determination of teacher/assistant/aide ratio. Late buses, modified sports, restore two teaching positions at lower grades. Use reserve funds to make up difference. Discussion. Restore education rather than extracurricular activity. Continued discussion on modified sports. Opportunity to deliver modified program differently. Direction to administration. BOE extended sincere thanks to administration for their work on the budget.
- d. SCSD Building Consolidation. Matt LaClair reported. Student population in grades 7-12 in year 2014-15 will be roughly 450 students. Could fit all grades in the high school. Move fifth grade to elementary school 2010-11 (\$25,000 savings per year); move sixth grade to elementary school 2011-12 (\$31,000 per year savings). Move 7-8 to high school in 2014-15. \$338k per year savings if entire building is vacated. Additional revenue may be realized if building space can be rented. Costs associated with retrofitting high school to accommodate 7-8. Discussion.

7. Meeting open for public discussion. Should investigate moving fifth grade to CES. Socio-emotional developmental needs of middle schoolers need to be considered. Don't confuse voters with discussion of building consolidation at same time discussing budget.

8. Policies: Acceptable Employee Use and Internet Safety Policy (#7-202) - 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading. Seth Hendrick moved adoption of policy. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.

## 9. Consent agenda

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- a. Linda Underwood moved acceptance of Claims Auditor's Report for the month of January 2010. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- b. Linda Underwood moved acceptance of Treasurer's Report for the month of January 2010. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- c. Linda Underwood moved acceptance of Revenue and Budget Status Reports for the month of January 2010. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- d. Linda Underwood moved acceptance of Extra-Classroom Activity Report for the month of January 2010. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- e. Linda Underwood moved acknowledgement of donation from Alvin & Louise Weeks in the amount of \$100 in support of the High School Equal Opportunity Fund. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- f. Linda Underwood moved acceptance of donations from Stewart's Foundation in the amounts of \$500.00 in support of Maple Hill Middle School Work Study Program and \$750.00 in support of Maple Hill Middle School Charities program. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- g. Linda Underwood moved acceptance of donation from Schodack Castleton Community Partnership in the amount of \$765.00 in support of the Primary Project at Castleton Elementary School. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- h. Linda Underwood moved acceptance of bid from Charles Briggs, St. Paul's U.M.C. in the amount of \$30.00 for six TV carts, pursuant to a surplus bid opening 2/25/10. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- i. Linda Underwood moved acceptance of bid from Noreen Jenkins in the amount of \$5.00 for two electric typewriters, pursuant to a surplus bid opening 2/25/10. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- j. Linda Underwood moved acceptance of bid from Earl G. Thoma, Mathies & Sons, Inc. in the amount of \$260.00 for Bus #82 (1998 Ford Van - VIN # 1FDSE37FOWHA69024), pursuant to a surplus bid opening 2/25/10. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- k. Linda Underwood moved acceptance of bid from Tampa Bus Market, Inc. in the amount of \$3,118.00 for Bus #84 (1999 INTL. - VIN # 1HVBBAAN4XH660535) and \$3,118 for #86 (1999 INTL - VIN # 1HVBBAAN0XH243235), pursuant to a surplus bid opening 2/25/10. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- l. Linda Underwood moved acceptance of bid from Mark Sebast, Don Brown Bus Sales, Inc. in the amount of \$1,800.00 for Bus #85 (1999 INTL. - VIN # 1HVBBAAN9XH243324) and

\$400.00 for #89 (2000 Ford van - VIN # 1FDXE45F5YHB50540), pursuant to a surplus bid opening 2/25/10. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.

- m. Linda Underwood moved approval of disposition of district property in accordance with Board of Education Policy #4-206 per list. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- n. Linda Underwood moved approval of payment to Capstone Appraisal Group, Inc., 668 Columbia Turnpike, Suite 3, East Greenbush, NY 12061, in the amount of \$4,300.00 for one-half of the property appraisal cost related to the 2008 and 2009 Hannaford Brothers tax certiorari claims, as approved by the Board on 10/15/09. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- o. Linda Underwood moved approval of recommendations of district Committee on Preschool Special Education regarding 2009-10 special education services for students # abcabcabc, defdefdef, 000113699, 000113554. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- p. Linda Underwood moved approval of recommendations of district Committee on Special Education regarding 2009-10 special education services for students #083090000, 000113530. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- q. Linda Underwood moved approval of recommendations of district Committee on Special Education regarding 2009-10 special education services for student #000113314. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- r. George Warner moved to remove item and table until executive session. Linda Underwood seconded. All present in favor. Item moved to executive session. Approval of request from Carol and Patrick Nato to waive Board of Education Policy 6-300 Documentation of Residency, Non-Resident Students and Tuition for the remainder of school year 2009-2010 and school year 2010-2011
- s. Linda Underwood moved acceptance of non-cash donation of one Lenova Idea Pad (computer) valued at \$369.00 from the Maple Hill High School Trivial Pursuit Team for use in the high school. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- t. Linda Underwood moved acceptance of non-cash donation of two baseball dugouts valued at \$18,000 from Tom Hall, to be built and installed at the high school. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- u. Linda Underwood moved acceptance of donation from South Schodack Volunteer Fire Co. Ladies Auxiliary Foundation in the amount of \$100.00 in support of Maple Hill Middle School Charities program. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- v. Linda Underwood moved approval of Consulting Agreement with Needham Risk Management Resource Group, LLC for consultation and maintenance of health and safety programs, and for

personnel and human resource management services, effective April 1, 2010 through June 30, 2010 at the rate of \$2,125.00 per calendar month for up to 26.65 hours per month; authorized services in excess of total hours for three months period at a rate of \$65.00 per hour. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.

#### 10. Resignations/Appointments

- a. Seth Hendrick moved acceptance with regret and deep appreciation for 14 years of service, of resignation of Douglas Hamlin, Superintendent, for the purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2010. Kenneth Flood seconded. All present in favor.
  - b. Seth Hendrick moved approval of unpaid leave of absence for Rachel Murphy, Special Education teacher, effective March 5, 2010 through June 30, 2010. Kenneth Flood seconded. All present in favor.
  - c. Seth Hendrick moved approval of Zenia Skalij (certification: Students with Disabilities [Grades 1-6]; Literacy [Birth-Grade 6]; Childhood Education [Grades 1-6]) as extended term substitute teacher for Rachel Murphy, effective January 8, 2010 through June 30, 2010. Salary for the position is MS Step 1, pro-rated January 8, 2010 through June 30, 2010. Kenneth Flood seconded. All present in favor.
  - d. Seth Hendrick moved approval of permanent appointment of Sandra Hall, Clerk, effective March 31, 2010. Kenneth Flood seconded. All present in favor.
  - e. Seth Hendrick moved approval of substitute teachers: Michael Kosar, Tara TenEyck . Kenneth Flood seconded. All present in favor.
  - f. Seth Hendrick moved approval of non-instructional substitutes: Erin Megivern . Kenneth Flood seconded. All present in favor.
  - g. Seth Hendrick moved approval of extracurricular advisors/coaches for 2009-10:
    - (1) Laura Cook - CES Computer Co-Specialist (March-June)
    - (2) Alissa Leavitt - CES Computer Co-Specialist (March-June). Kenneth Flood seconded. All present in favor.
11. Action items. Discussion of Tech Valley, New Visions, CTE. Draft #3 of budget. Exploring building consolidation. Info on board vacancies on website. Op-ed by Michael Hiser in Times Union.
12. Motion to enter executive session to discuss work history of specific employees, collective bargaining with CSEA, SFA. Phyllis Weber Scannell moved to enter into executive session at 10:47pm. George Warner seconded. All present in favor.
13. Phyllis Weber Scannell moved approval of request from Carol and Patrick Nato to waive Board of Education Policy 6-300 Documentation of Residency, Non-Resident Students and Tuition for the remainder of school year 2009-2010 through the 2011-12 school year. George Warner seconded. All present in favor.

14. Adjournment . Having no other business before the board, meeting adjourned at 11:25pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Elizabeth Chipman  
District Clerk

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